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## Woodward-Clyde Consultants

May 7, 1987

SFUND RECORDS CTR  
1633-90641

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Ms. Jennifer Decker  
Remedial Project Manager  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
215 Fremont Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Project No.: REM II - EPA Contract No. 68-01-6939  
Work Assignment No.: 135-9L34 Atlas and Coalinga Sites  
Document No.: 239-R11-EP-EKJS-1  
Subject: Site Boundaries, Control of Access, and Other Disturbed Areas

Dear Ms. Decker:

Attached to this letter is a map of the area surrounding the Atlas and Coalinga asbestos mill sites. The lines on the map indicate our present understanding of the site boundaries. At EPA's instruction, we are concentrating our remedial investigation work on these areas within the site boundaries, and on the fate and effect of contaminants released from these areas.

During the course of our on-site studies to date we have observed numerous persons at both sites including:

- Salvage crews removing equipment and building materials from the mill buildings.
- Recreational vehicle (RV) enthusiasts.
- Hunters and campers.

With few exceptions, none of these persons were wearing respirators or protective clothing.

Visual observations suggest that the repeated disturbance of the sites may be aggravating the erosion of asbestos-containing materials, thereby increasing both airborne and surface water emissions.

We recommend that EPA consider the installation of additional signs, and possibly perimeter fencing, to keep recreational vehicle enthusiasts, hunters, and other unnecessary persons out of the study areas. Restrict-



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tion of such access will 1) help to ensure that meaningful results are obtained from our upcoming sampling and testing programs on site; 2) help to protect the health of those users who are entering the site and who may not fully appreciate the hazards; and 3) help to minimize the ongoing repeated disturbance of the tailings piles, ore piles, mine areas and natural soils.

There are several other areas within and adjacent to the New Idria formation which were disturbed by historical mining activities, and are in the Los Gatos Creek watershed. Some of these areas are shown on the attached map.

- The Dick Wright Spring Mine
- The Mistake Mine (also known as The Butler Estate Mine)
- The James Corbett Byles Mine
- The Archer Mine
- The Holman Mill Site
- The San Joaquin Mill Site

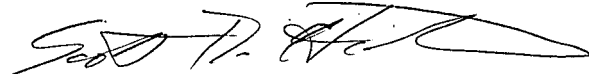
Surface waters from the Dick Wright Spring Mine and the Mistake Mine drain directly to the Coalinga mill site.

In addition, there are several small, apparently unnamed, mine sites scattered throughout the drainage.

We recommend that EPA consider the contribution of these off-site areas to the asbestos concentrations occurring in the Los Gatos Creek watershed, and determine whether their contributions warrant the inclusion of these areas into the remedial investigation.

Sincerely,

WOODWARD-CLYDE CONSULTANTS



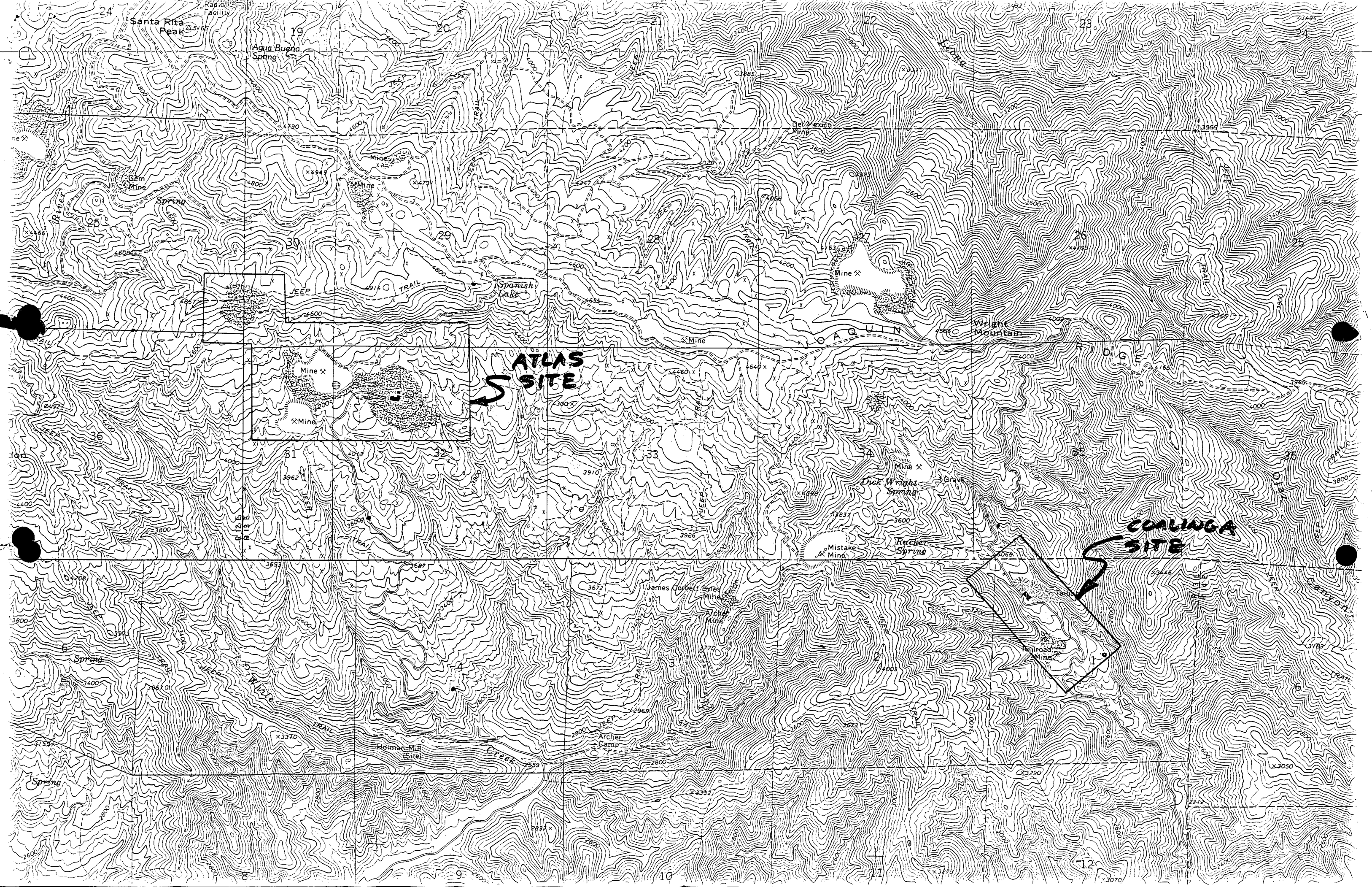
Scott Huntsman, Ph.D., P.E.  
Site Manager

SH:wp

Attachment

cc: M. Richards  
U. Luscher.

239Misc.18



ATLAS  
SITE

COALINGA  
SITE